

REMARKS

Claims 1-24 are pending in the application. Claims 1-5 and 9-24 stand rejected. The assignee thanks the examiner for indicating that claims 6-8 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. The assignee traverses the rejections of the pending claims.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §§ 102, 103

Claims 1-5 and 10-14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,356,937, issued to Montville, et al. (Montville). Claims 9 and 15-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Montville. The assignee respectfully disagrees that the cited art discloses or renders obvious the claimed subject matter of the instant application.

In rejecting claim 1, the office action cites Montville as disclosing providing a message composition interface for composing an outgoing message, wherein the interface comprises a message portion and a messaging settings portion and receiving from the messaging settings portion a messaging setting associated with the outgoing message being composed in the provided message composition interface, as required by claim 1. Claim 1 has been amended herein to clarify that more than one type of encryption scheme is available and displayed within the messaging settings portion. This amendment to claim 1 is supported in the specification of the instant application, for example at page 26, line 22 – page 27, line 7 and at Figure 6. Assignee respectfully submits that nothing in the Montville reference discloses that more than one type of encryption scheme is available and displayed within the messaging settings portion. For example, figure 13 of Montville only provides a checkbox to indicate that “Encrypt” has been selected. In other words, the user is presented with only a single option, not the multiple options recited in claim 1, in combination with its other limitations. Thus, the Montville

reference does not disclose that more than one type of encryption scheme is available and displayed within the messaging settings portion, as required by claim 1, and for at least this reason, claim 1 is allowable and should proceed to issuance.

In addition, the assignee maintains that this amendment to claim 1 does not include any subject matter that was not previously searched with respect to the instant application. For example, dependent claim 6, which the examiner has indicated is allowable if rewritten in independent form, recites that a received messaging setting comprises an indication for encryption and that the indication for encryption includes an indication of which of the more than one type of security scheme has been selected. Thus, the amendment to claim 1 herein does not introduce any new subject matter.

Independent claims 15 and 24 recite subject matter analogous to the subject matter of independent claim 1. Claims 15 and 24 have been amended herein to further recite that more than one type of encryption scheme is available and displayed within the messaging settings portion. These claims were rejected in the office action under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Montville. The assignee respectfully submits that, because the subject matter of the additional limitation of claims 15 and 24 is not disclosed by Montville, the claims are allowable for at least this reason and should proceed to issuance.

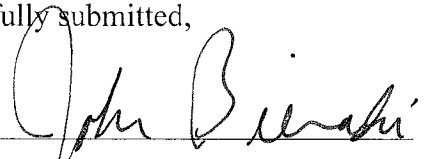
Because independent claims 1 and 15 are allowable, their respective dependent claims are also allowable and should proceed to issuance. It is noted that the assignee has not, at this time, presented arguments with respect to a number of the dependent claims in the instant application. The assignee nevertheless reserves the right to argue the patentability of all of the dependent claims in the instant application at a future time, should that become necessary.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, the assignee respectfully submits that the pending claims are allowable. Therefore, the examiner is respectfully requested to pass this case to issuance.

Respectfully submitted,

By: _____


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